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Examiner P. Ponnaluri at Fax No.: 703-305-3014

On May 8, 2001

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Ronald Paul Henley

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 018547004131
Client Reference No.: 1046.2 CON

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Cronin et al.

Application No.: 09/510,378

Filed: February 22, 2000

For: ARRAYS OF NUCLEIC ACID PROBES ON BIOLOGICAL CHIPS

Examiner: P. Ponnaluri

Art Unit: 1627

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

*Pre81B
SOP
5901*

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the office action dated April 23, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 6 of page 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

This application is a continuation of 08/544,381, filed: October 10, 1995 (now US 6,027,880), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 08/510,521, filed Aug. 2, 1995, which is a continuation-in-part of PCT/US94/12305, filed Oct. 26, 1994, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 08/284,064, filed Aug. 2, 1994 abandoned in favor of file wrapper continuation 08/781,550 (now US 5,861,242), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 08/143,312, filed Oct. 26, 1993 abandoned in favor of file wrapper continuation 08/441,887 now US 5,837,832, each of which is incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes. Research leading to the invention was funded in part by NIH grant No. 1R01HG00813-01, and the government may have certain rights to the invention.

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